

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 EC BRU 06805 091924Z

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ACTION EUR-12

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TAGS: UN, EC, PDIP, ADRG

SUBJECT: ESTABLISHMENT OF EC COMMISSION DELEGATION TO THE  
UN IN NEW YORK -- RENEWED REQUEST FOR DIPLOMATIC  
STATUS

1. ON JULY 9 FIELDING, EC COMMISSION EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DIRECTORATE GENERAL, CALLED IN MISSION OFFICER TO DELIVER NOTE VERBALE CONCERNING COMMISSION'S DECISION TO MODIFY STATUS OF ITS OFFICE IN NEW YORK. NOTE (COPY POUCHED EUR/RPE--HOMME) SAYS THAT EFFECTIVE JUNE 25, 1976, THIS OFFICE BECAME AN INDEPENDENT DELEGATION, CHARGED WITH REPRESENTING THE COMMISSION TO THE UN IN NEW YORK AND RESPONSIBLE DIRECTLY TO THE COMMISSION'S HEADQUARTERS IN BRUSSELS. FULL TITLE OF NEW DELEGATION IS "DELEGATION OF THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES TO THE UNITED NATIONS IN NEW YORK." NOTE FURTHER DESCRIBES COMMISSION'S DECISION TO DESIGNATE PAOLO CECCHINI AS HEAD OF DELEGATION (EC BRUSSELS 5713) AND ALF JONSSON AS DEPUTY HEAD. CECCHINI WILL ASSUME OFFICIAL DUTIES IN NEW YORK IN SEPTEMBER, WHILE JONSSON WILL BE IN CHARGE IN THE INTERIM.

2. FIELDING THEN SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OCCASION TO REITERATE IN FORTHRIGHT TERMS COMMISSION'S REQUEST  
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PAGE 02 EC BRU 06805 091924Z

FOR FULL DIPLOMATIC STATUS FOR THE DELEGATION HEAD AND FOUR

OTHERS. (HE NOTED THAT THE OTHERS WOULD HAVE LARGELY UN DUTIES, AND THEREFORE HE COULD NOT ASSUME THAT THEY WOULD BE HANDLING BILATERAL MATTERS ONLY.) HE SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THE DIFFICULTIES INVOLVED IN GRANTING THE COMMISSION'S REQUEST AND OUR CONCERN ABOUT SETTING PRECEDENTS FOR THE PLO AND POSSIBLY OTHERS. HOWEVER, HE SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO MAKE THREE POINTS IN THIS CONNECTION. IN THE FIRST PLACE, IT "WOULD BE STRONGLY RESENTED" FOR THE EC TO BE COMPARED WITH THE PLO. THE EC IS SUI GENERIS AND NOT COMPARABLE TO ANYONE ELSE. SECONDLY, THE EC CONSIDERS ITSELF A FRIEND AND PARTNER OF THE U.S. FINALLY, FIELDING SAID THAT THE COMMISSION FEELS THAT AN ENHANCED EC PROFILE AT THE UNITED NATIONS IS DESIRABLE FOR FOREIGN POLICY REASONS WHICH ARE ALSO IMPORTANT TO THE U.S. IN ESTABLISHING THE COMMISSION DELEGATION IN NEW YORK, FIELDING SAID "WE ARE ENABLING THE EC TO PLAY A MORE ACTIVE ROLE AND WE BELIEVE THIS IS WHAT THE U.S. WANTS."

3. FIELDING THEN OBSERVED THAT SINCE CECCHINI WILL BE TAKING UP HIS POSITION IN NEW YORK SOON, THE COMMISSION HOPES FOR AN EARLY AND POSITIVE RESPONSE FROM OUR SIDE. HE SAID HE WAS AWARE OF A WORKING-LEVEL COMPROMISE UNDER DISCUSSION SEVERAL MONTHS AGO, BUT FROM WHAT HE UNDERSTOOD OF IT THE PROPOSAL WAS UNACCEPTABLE. THE POINT IS THAT THIS IS A POLITICAL REQUEST, AND SHOULD BE SEEN AND WORKED OUT IN A POLITICAL, NOT A TECHNICAL LIGHT. IN A CLOSING ASIDE, FIELDING OBSERVED THAT THE COMMISSION'S REQUEST HAD ALREADY BEEN RAISED IN WASHINGTON BY EXTERNAL RELATIONS DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL GALLAGHER, WASHINGTON DELEGATION HEAD SPAAK, AND FINALLY BY SIR CHRISTOPHER SOAMES WITH THE SECRETARY. IF IT WERE NOT POSSIBLE TO CLEAR UP THE MATTER SOON, FIELDING FELT IT WOULD INEVITABLY HAVE TO GO ON THE AGENDA OF THE US-EC CONSULTATIONS IN WASHINGTON THIS FALL.

4. COMMENT: USEC HAS ALREADY WEIGHED IN ON THIS MATTER (EC BRUSSELS 1554 AND EC BRUSSELS 4914) AND WE CONTINUE TO FEEL THAT THE COMMISSION HAS A STRONG AND SUPPORTABLE CASE IN ASSERTING IT IS SUI GENERIS AND BELONGS IN A TOTALLY DIFFERENT CATEGORY FROM THE PLO AND OTHERS. FURTHERMORE, WE STRONGLY AGREE WITH THE POINT THAT AN ENHANCED EC PRESENCE AT THE UN IS IN OUR OWN FOREIGN POLICY INTERESTS. ONE OF THE BASIC REASONS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 EC BRU 06805 091924Z

FOR THE U.S. SUPPORTING EUROPEAN UNITT HAS BEEN THE HOPE THAT IT WOULD LEAD TO INCREASED CONTRIBUTION BY THE EC TO SOLVING PROBLEMS. IN THE PROCESS, WE SHOULD BE PREPARED TO GIVE THEM THE PROPER TOOLS TO EASE THEIR TASK IN NEW YORK. HINTON

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